

KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 7, 2009

No. 09-029

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NEW HIGHLY SKILLED EDUCATORS SELECTED

(FRANKFORT, Ky.) – Nineteen Kentucky educators will serve as new Highly Skilled Educators (HSEs) for the 2009-10 school year, joining the 26 continuing individuals currently helping low-performing schools raise the achievement levels of their students, the Kentucky Department of Education announced today.

The 19 are from school districts across the state. They will participate in rigorous training this summer and will be assigned to schools needing assistance this fall. HSEs serve for up to three years, during which they are granted leaves of absence from their home school districts.

NAME/TITLE	SCHOOL OR LOCATION	HOME SCHOOL DISTRICT
Susan Brock, assistant principal	Bell County High	Bell Co.
Linda Black, curriculum specialist	New Haven Elementary	Boone Co.
Amy Baker, teacher	Central Elementary	Bourbon Co.
Sheri Hamilton, curriculum coach	Freedom Elementary	Bullitt Co.
Leesa Moman, director of Special Programs	district central office	Daviess Co.
Claude “Buddy” Berry, teacher	Eminence High	Eminence Ind.
Charles Buntyn, Jr., teacher	Edyth J. Hayes Middle,	Fayette Co.
Michael Henderson, assistant principal	Lafayette High	Fayette Co.
Gregory Howell, teacher	Squires Elementary,	Fayette Co.
LaDonna Patterson, teacher	Greensburg Elementary,	Green Co.
Michael “Todd” Tucker, principal	Green County High	Green Co.
Danielle Randle, behavior coach	Blake Elementary	Jefferson Co.
Carolyn Spangler, principal	Letcher Elementary	Letcher Co.
Kelly Foster, director of Secondary Education	Montgomery County High	Montgomery Co.
Boyd Randolph, principal	Pulaski Southwestern High,	Pulaski Co.
Billie Travis, curriculum coach	Royal Spring Middle	Scott Co.
David “Thom” Coffee, teacher	Shelby West Middle	Shelby Co.
Kymberly Rice, principal	Shelby West Middle,	Shelby Co.
Joseph “Pat” Stewart, director of Technology	district central office	Warren Co.

To become Highly Skilled Educators, applicants meet the following criteria:

- Kentucky certification as an educator
- a minimum of five years of successful experience as a teacher or educational administrator
- involvement in teaching or administration within the last three years

(more)

Visit our Web site at <http://www.education.ky.gov>.

While serving, HSEs remain employees of their home districts. The Kentucky Department of Education signs a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with the HSEs' home districts on an annual basis. MOAs are renewable for a second year and may be renewable for a third year.

HSEs continue to receive their salaries, with no loss of benefits, through their home school districts. HSEs receive 135 percent of their current daily salaries for 235 days of employment. The additional 35 percent is not calculated into retirement benefits. Currently, beginning salaries for HSEs are capped at \$107,000.

Since 1990, the Highly Skilled Educators program (known as the Distinguished Educator program until 1998) has identified and trained more than 365 educators to work with schools identified by the state assessment and accountability program as being in need of assistance.

The HSEs provide a number of services to schools:

- assessing the needs of the school/district, including analysis of test data and the Kentucky Scholastic Audit Report
- leading the School Improvement Team in amending the Comprehensive School Improvement Plan
- assuring a focused use of Commonwealth School Improvement Funds within the school's budget
- providing professional development

Approximately 95 percent of schools served by Distinguished or Highly Skilled Educators have risen out of the assistance category by the end of two years of support.

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